

Remarks

Early favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

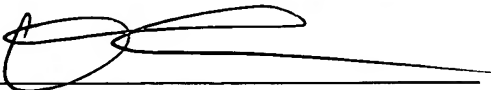
Claims 1-12, 15-16, 18-19, 21-22, 24-43, 45-58, 60-64 and 66-83 are pending. The existing claims substantially correspond to the 83 claims that were given a positive indication in the March, 2004 IPER. Many of these claims have been amended to place them in U.S. format and to eliminate the multiple dependent claims. No new matter has been added by these amendments.

A check is enclosed to cover the application filing fee and the additional claims filing fee. Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment as a result of the filing of this paper to our Deposit Account No. 02-3978 -- a duplicate of this paper is enclosed for that purpose.

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request a notice to that effect. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application, such a conference is highly encouraged at the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

**WILLIAM JAMES McMAHON ET AL.**

By   
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